California GARDEN

JULY–AUGUST 1979
Volume 70, Number 4
Seventy-five Cents

FLORAL EVENTS

70TH ANNIVERSARY OPEN HOUSE

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to
Horticulture, Gardening, and the Community

A Day of Delightful 'Memorabilia'
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Casa del Prado, Floral's Garden Center and Patio

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July 28 & 29	SAN DIEGO GESNERIAD SOCIETY THIRD ANNUAL SHOW Casa del Prado, Majorca Room, Balboa Park Sat. Noon to 5:00 p.m. – Sun. 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Free
August 4 & 5	SAN DIEGO COUNTY DAHLIA SOCIETY ANNUAL SHOW Casa del Prado, Majorca Room, Balboa Park Sat. 2:00 to 5:30 p.m. – Sun. 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Free
August 18 & 19	SAN DIEGO FERN SOCIETY SHOW Casa del Prado, Majorca Room, Balboa Park Sat. Noon to 5:00 p.m. – Sun. 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Free
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September 15 & 16	SAN DIEGO BROMELIAD SOCIETY ANNUAL SHOW Casa del Prado, Majorca Room, Balboa Park Sat. & Sun. 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Free

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Cover *Hemerocallis* 'California Garden,' named in commemoration of this magazine's seventieth year of publication, was drawn by Marge Mastro, artist for the San Diego Unified School District. This is one of many drawings she has generously contributed to *California Garden*. To our knowledge this is the first time a flower has been named for a distinguished horticultural magazine.

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The Naming of a Flower

by *Walter Gorrell*

Photo by Larry Paulter

AT ONE STAGE in hybridizing, half of 'California Garden' went to the dump where all my discards go. This 'California Garden' was a seedling hemerocallis plant I had hybridized and looked at long and hard. The seedling then developed into a plant with such vigor and distinctive bloom that hemerocallis friends and society members urged me to introduce and register it.

I always remember as a child in Indiana seeing daylilies, we called them, growing along the roadside. They were tall and gave a splash of color among the weeds.

After I retired from the Navy and the children left home, I found I had space to grow far more than just vegetables. The playground became a garden of irises and I soon added daylilies to extend color the rest of the summer.

Unlike those Hoosier flowers of Indiana, the new hybrids come in all shades of yellow, purple, pink, red, orange, and brown—no whites or blues, but the hybridizers are working on that shortcoming. I tried crossing several near whites, but they always came out pale yellow. I crossed 'Prairie Blue Eyes' with various others, but no blue for me.

Jack Romine of Walnut Creek, near San Francisco, is a specialist in converting diploid hemerocallis to tetraploids. He converted 'Dorfay' to 'Tetra Dorfay' and 'Lime Painted Lady,' a popular yellow-green spider-type, to 'Tetra Lime Painted Lady.''

I crossed 'Tetra Dorfay' with 'Tetra Lime Painted Lady,' the pod parent being 'Tetra Dorfay.' I number my seeds as they are planted, keeping each pod group together. Would you believe No. 300 stood tall and beautiful above all others? The bloom was greenish gold with a green throat. It had the petal width and substance of 'Tetra Dorfay' and the greenish tinge of 'Tetra Lime Painted Lady.'

No one but a hybridizer can know the joy (or disappointment) experienced on the morning of the first bloom!

I displayed seedling No. 300 at the Wild Animal Park's Fall Flower Show in 1978 under the sponsorship of the *San Diego Floral Association.* Southwest Hemerocallis Society members made suggestions for naming the plant. I heard someone say it had an old-gold look, so I wanted to name it Old Goldie. No one liked that! When Sanford Roberts, who has been successful in hybridizing irises, asked about the plant, I said it was a good yard plant, meaning little grooming was necessary. He said, "Don't say yard plant, say garden plant."

Isn't it nice that the *San Diego Floral Association* came up with 'California Garden' for the name, commemorating the seventieth year of publication for this distinctive horticultural magazine? □

Hemerocallis 'California Garden'

Walter Gorrell has turned retirement into an exciting adventure with the addition of hemerocallis hybridizing to his gardening activities. He is Regional Vice-President, American Hemerocallis Society (Region 7), and Vice-President of the Southwest Hemerocallis Society.

The Flowering of California Garden

by *Alice Clark*

WITH THE BELIEF that the promotion and understanding of all phases of horticulture is basic to our healthy, happy, and beautiful community, the *San Diego Floral Association* is proud to present the "Seventieth Anniversary" issue of *California Garden* magazine. This is a brief story of its beginning.

About 1904, Alfred D. Robinson, a local resident who hailed from England, came home from a two-year visit to his native land and the continent. He had been greatly impressed by the arboretums and flower shows he had visited there. Upon his return his enthusiasm inspired a group of kindred spirits to seek ways to hold flower shows and to beautify San Diego. Three years later, this group organized the *San Diego Floral Association* under the sponsorship of the Chamber of Commerce. Its first meeting was held in June, 1907.

The members soon felt a need for a publication to spread their garden gospel in San Diego. As a result, five of them, under the leadership of Mr. Robinson, cooperated to produce the first issue of *California Garden*. This was in July, 1909. A monthly then, now a bi-monthly, it has been in continuous publication by the same association, ever since. The subscription price of fifty cents a year, or five cents a copy, reflects the happy fiscal picture at that time.

On its Fiftieth Anniversary the *Association* celebrated by reprinting facsimiles of the first two issues. For the birthday number we ran a full-color cover of gold cup or canyon live oak, *Quercus chrysolepis*, painted about the time the magazine began publication. The artist was A. R. Valentien, who had been commissioned by Miss Ellen Scripps to paint 1200 native plants, of which this was one. These watercolors are now the property of the San Diego Natural History Museum in Balboa Park.

As a matter of curiosity, we have tried to find another horticultural magazine in this country with a longer continuous publishing record than ours. Being unsuccessful, we turned again to England, the source of ADR's enthusiasm. Once more we found the answer to our quest in the Natural History Museum Library. It was a complete set of the *Curtis Botanical Magazine*, first published in 1787, 192 years ago. It sold for a shilling a copy, each of which contained three hand-colored flower plates.

Bow down, all ye gardeners, when you hear that those handsome illustrations were only replaced by a modern color process in 1948. Try to picture the magnitude of hand labor involved in making nearly 10,000 individual color plates, for each issue, for just over 160 years. An example of gardening devotion! That wonderful record flattens our seventy-year ego completely, but it offers a chance for a few comments in comparison.

The English magazine was started and carried on by a master horticulturist, William Curtis, for whom it was named, and later, by his distinguished followers. In San Diego we have had the Robinson legend for our inspiration, augmented by the talents of Kate Sessions, Alfred Hottes, and Roland Hoyt, to mention but a few. Both these horticultural magazines survived two wars. The bombing of London wrecked a complete Curtis issue as it was ready for distribution. Our problem at that time was simpler—a lack of members, due to war activities, to carry on the publication, but again more volunteers saved us in the nick of time.

There is no mention of problems of production costs overseas, but in these days when "something for nothing" is rare, it is a big plus for *California Garden* that our organization always included a strong group of garden writers, photographers, and artists who counted it a privilege to contribute to this publication.

That is how we started and that is how we still carry on—by the devotion of people who loved and wanted beautiful gardens in their city. They were willing to promote and give a project their personal time and effort. This seventy years of *California Garden* is really the bloom from the efforts of dedicated workers and avid gardeners who will always keep *California Garden* in full flower. □

Alice Clark's unparalleled devotion to California Garden for over 40 years, as writer and artist, editor (now Editor Emeritus), and financial angel is one of those people who have promoted the flowering of California Garden. Always interested in flowers even as a young girl, Alice was painting the San Diego Floral Association's flower exhibits at the 1915 Panama-Pacific Exposition when she met A. D. Robinson. Begonias, one of her specialities over the years, is the subject of an outstanding book she recently published which includes 35 full color plates of her renowned begonia watercolors.

Cover of first issue of California Garden magazine—actual size

Landscaping with Olive Trees

by *George James*

IT IS RECOGNIZED that a few mature specimen olive trees in a new landscape planting add to the impressiveness of the planting. Olive trees are frequently used in this way because mature trees can be moved with little danger of loss and they are sometimes available from groves no longer being used for fruit production. Nurseries will have olive trees in containers ranging in size from small cans to large boxes. The largest ones are only a little smaller than the mature specimens moved from an orchard.

A tree of spreading nature is more effective for landscape planting than a tall and slender one. Young trees can be made to spread by cutting off the top at a point two or three feet above the ground; several branches will develop just below the cut. A spreading, multi-stemmed tree can be created by planting several small trees in a common hole, the trunks placed as close together as possible and tilted slightly so they will spread outward. The same technique can be used to quickly create multi-stemmed trees of other kinds.

An olive tree can grow 25 to 40 feet in both height and spread, the difference being caused by variety, soil, or care. It will grow in a soil that is shallow, infertile, or slightly alkaline. In such soils it will be smaller and less dense, so that the branch structure of the tree is revealed. To many people this is more attractive than a dense tree. Where care or soil encourage dense top growth, one or two prunings a year will keep the top open so the interior structure can be seen.

The olive tree is evergreen, the narrow leaves are dark green (olive green) on the upper side, and silver is revealed when the leaves are turned by the wind. In spring small white flowers appear on young growth. The fruit which develops in summer is best used for home processing when green. In the fall the fruit ripens and turns purple to black and may stain paved surfaces when it falls. Fruit production on ornamental trees can be reduced by removing some of the flowering growth. This can be done at the time of flowering. Other pruning, needed to regulate size or spread, or to open the tree, can be done at the same time. There are materials available at well stocked garden supply centers that can be sprayed on the flowers to prevent fruit set. It will be necessary to make several applications because the tree flowers over a period of several months and each flower must be wet if control is to be had.

The several varieties of olive differ in size and quality of fruit. The manzanillo is a fruiting variety that is often used for ornamental purposes because the tree is lower and more spreading than the others. There are also several fruitless varieties, suitable for ornamental use because they do not litter. At times trees of the so-called fruitless kinds have been known to bear fruit, but one is no worse off than if a fruit bearing kind had been planted.

Olive trees grow well and easily in the coastal parts of southern California, but the best quality fruit is produced where summer temperatures are higher, as in the San Joaquin Valley in Central California. They will stand temperatures that are hotter or colder than those of southern California.

Seedling plants are often found growing close to fruiting trees. These can be transplanted and will become satisfactory ornamental trees, but may produce fruit that is small or of a poor oil content. Trees that are planted for fruit production should be started with cuttings taken from a tree that bears fruit of desirable quality.

Olives have few pests. One of these is scale, an insect that is covered with a shell and is immobile when mature. These infest leaves, twigs, and small branches, and weaken the tree by living on the plant. They also secrete a sweet liquid upon which sooty mold fungus grows. This fungus covers the leaves and reduces their ability to manufacture plant food and it also makes the plant unsightly. There are some parasites that prey on the scale, but when an infestation spreads rapidly it is necessary to control it with an oil spray.

There is an organism that causes galls to form on the twigs and small branches. The galls interfere with the flow of food and the disease is controlled by cutting out those parts that have galls on them. Dip the cutting tools in a solution of one part household laundry bleach to ten parts water to prevent the infection being spread by the cutting tools.

The olive tree can be combined with nearly any other kind of plant and will grow satisfactorily on the care needed by the companion plant, making it a useful tree for many ornamental landscape uses. For interesting and unusual effects that can be obtained with olive trees, observe the plantings in old gardens and parks, and around new buildings. □

George James, retired nurseryman, horticulture instructor, and down-to-bedrock gardener, has been contributing to our magazine for 10 years. As a second generation San Diego nurseryman his horticultural knowledge is unsurpassed. Besides gardening, George finds time to participate actively in San Diego Floral Association and in the civic activities of his home town, National City.

Introducing the Exciting IMPATIENS

by *Sharon Siegan*

THE NEW GUINEA impatiens have been making a name for themselves—and that name is exciting! Iowa University introduced the 'Cyclone' hybrids several years ago and the United States Department of Agriculture joined in with 'Painted' and 'Rainbow' cultivars.

Starting with these New Guinea hybrids, Dr. Toru Arisumi of the U.S.D.A.'s Department of Ornamentals Research Division, began to crossbreed them with some Java and Celebes strains. One result was 'Sweet Sue' with brilliant orange two-inch flowers and delicately variegated leaves.

The nurseries have been stocking a number of these hybrids, but without names. They rely upon the plants' brilliant variegated or flame-like foliage and shockingly intense flower colors to sell themselves. And sales have been brisk. They were brisk last year also, but few survived the winter's frost, which even in mild San Diego and environs, hit unprecedentedly hard. Many of the plants that did weather the frost succumbed to root damage caused by poor drainage during ensuing downpours. Unacclimated to California winters, the impatiens hybrids suffered heavy casualties.

One nursery survivor has made a remarkable comeback in my garden. It was sufficiently protected under lath so that when the pot was moved out into the open garden in February, it began to recover under the warming sun. Now in mid-March, it is setting out cerise blossoms to match its colorful stems. Leaves are ovate with strong red veining underneath, bleeding through to the top, creating a variegated rosy effect.

With proper protection the New Guinea hybrids can overwinter here and live out their perennial heritage. Potted impatiens may be removed to indoor shelter, while those in the ground can be "tented" with plastic or otherwise covered during cold spells. Just remember that these impatiens are more cold-sensitive than our traditional standbys, and should not be exposed to temperatures below 40° unless protected.

Curiously the cultivation of these new hybrids seems more closely related to that of annual, rather than perennial, impatiens varieties. The New Guineas are not sun-shy; they thrive on a half-day's exposure to that warming sphere. And they are lusty, drinking heartily and demanding frequent feeding to nourish their almost continuous (once started) display of oversized blooms. They may require daily watering if they are in pots outdoors. Newly transplanted plants may also need daily watering at least for the first few weeks. And do not forget to add a high phosphorous fertilizer every few weeks during their flowering period.

Like other impatiens, these hybrids may be grown indoors as container plants provided their needs for humidity and relatively cool temperatures (below 72°, especially at night), are met. Fresh air and light breezes will particularly please them.

Meanwhile, hybridizers have not neglected our shade-loving impatiens. 'Francifrills,' carried by name in many nurseries, is double-flowering, boasting rose-like blooms numbering 25 to 50 petals each. Then there is 'Razzle-Dazzle'—which does just that with its brilliantly striped petals. Also there is a host of other bicolors in assorted tints or strong hues set off by white. One of the most striking is 'Twinkles,' a dwarf, with snow-white stars centered on a velvety ground of red, fuchsia, rose or scarlet. There is even a choice candidate for hanging baskets—'Futura' of low-spreading habit and sporting oversized orange, red, pink, or white blossoms.

If you are still loyal to the less spectacular and less demanding patience plants, take heart—there is a

New Guinea Impatiens

Photos by BILL GUNTHER

Sharon Siegan, artist-sculptor turned gardener and flower arranger, has recently become a contributor to and is active in public relations for the magazine. Sharon is a National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc., accredited flower show judge.

wide color and size range from which to choose. Traditional and reliable, these garden favorites are available in a spectrum of color from white to red, through various shadings of pink and rose. There are lilacs and an iridescent orange-coral, 'Blaze,' a semi-dwarf. There are several heights, the standard being about two feet or taller. Semi-dwarfs grow 8 to 12 inches and dwarfs remain at ground cover level, about 4 to 8 inches. These impatiens are hardy and can generally be counted on for colorful bloom in the winter months, until their blossoms are shattered by wind or rain. They can be felled too by frost and are subject to root rot, but usually will recover after severe pruning of damaged members, springing into bushy new growth and flowering freely.

All impatiens are easy to start—whether from seed, pony packs, or cuttings. Stem cuttings will root in water and may be grown indefinitely in that medium providing it is kept fresh and a small amount of fertilizer added periodically. So pick a pot at the nursery, or bribe a stem cutting from a friend or neighbor—and become an impatiens collector. They will reward both the patient and impatient gardener. □

Olive Tree History

by *George James* (*)

THE OLIVE TREE was introduced into southern California by the Franciscan Fathers, who brought cuttings to the missions in Alta California. These were taken from trees already growing at the missions in Baja California, which in turn were started from cuttings brought from the Mediterranean countries.

Olives were planted in 1790 at the San Diego Mission located close to the San Diego River. Grapes, pomegranates, and figs were already growing at the Mission, and as time went on other fruits were started.

In 1869, Frank Kimball and his brother Warren had bought what is now National City and were starting to farm it. They became interested in the olives that were growing at the San Diego Mission, and saw in them the possibility of a commercial crop. Frank bought some cuttings from the Mission Fathers and this became the start of commercial olive culture in San Diego. Kimball obtained cuttings of other varieties, mostly from Baja California, so as to compare their productivity and fruit quality with those originally obtained from the Mission. The United States Department of Agriculture sent him specimens of French varieties also, and his trials proved that the original variety, obtained from the Mission San Diego and called the Mission variety, was the best in all respects for this climate and soil.

Kimball started to propagate olives on a grand scale to supply his own needs and to supply others who wanted to plant orchards. In one year his nursery produced over 50,000 trees, some of which were shipped to other parts of the state, and he was regarded as a major source of olive trees.

When the young olive orchards started to bear, all the fruit was pickled. As production increased there was too much fruit to use in this form so Kimball built a mill in National City to crush the fruit for oil. The mill had a reputation for pressing a high quality oil. This oil was not diluted with cottonseed oil as was often done, and commanded a high price on the market, locally or in other parts of the country. The production of olives for pressing and pickling was a viable industry in San Diego until the early 1900's, when competition from abroad destroyed it. □

(*) The above information was condensed from *Development of the Olive Oil Industry and Other South Bay Stories*. This is one of five small volumes by Irene Philipps, dealing with the development and early life in the South Bay area of San Diego, California. She had access to the Kimball diaries, which are now in the National City Public Library, as source material.

CURE THE OLIVE

by *Rosalie Garcia*

HOW MANY have ever tasted a home-cured olive, properly processed—so nutty and seductive that a grocery store one is insipid and flat? Those who have been so lucky are driven to trying one of the many ways to home-cure. It is not a snap, and one must get set, stay at home most of the time, and follow directions.

The University of California Agricultural Extension Service puts out an excellent leaflet on Home Pickling of Olives (Leaflet 2758 Rev. 1975) free for the asking. It goes into detail on the various processes one may use.

Taste a green or ripe olive. It is as bitter as gall and astringent, too. To rid it of some or most of the bitterness, one may resort to lye, salt, or just plain cold water in many baths in nonmetal containers. Stoneware or glass jars, or wooden (oak) kegs are the best, especially the keg with a spigot to let the water out.

Lye will burn the flesh badly and ruins any vegetation it touches. Salt is also death to vegetation. Choose a spot outside where the liquid can be drained off and will harm nothing. The plan is to purge the olive of its bitterness and keep the flesh firm.

When using the lye process, mix lye in water in the proportion of 4 level tablespoons of lye to 1 gallon of water. Stir this solution until cool and cover the olives with it. Stir every 2 or 3 hours with a wooden spoon. (You have to stick around.) If these are green olives, the lye should have penetrated to the pits in 10 or 12 hours. If not pour off the lye water, and cover the olives with plain water and leave them over night. The next day make another lye solution just half as strong and let it stay on as long as 30 hours. Pour this off, rinse twice in cold water. Change the water four times a day until there is no longer a lye taste. May take 7 or 8 days. Stay with it! Now prepare a salt brine of 6½ tablespoons of salt per gallon—pure salt, not iodized. Cover olives and let stand two days. The olives are now ready to use if you are not worn out. Keep in a cool place. If there are too many to eat in a week or so, they can be kept in a heavy brine of ¼ cup of salt to 1 gallon of water for a week. Pour that off and put in a heavy brine of 1-2/3 cup of salt to 1 gallon of water. After 10 or 12 days, make another brine of 1 pound of salt to a gallon of water. Put in a stoneware or glass jar. Take out what can be used in a few days, soak over night and use in three days.

They can be canned in a pressure cooker, directions in the leaflet mentioned, but I warn you they are better left in salt and soaked when needed. They can be frozen, but often they thaw soft.

This process can be used for ripe olives also, but one may need up to 5 lye treatments, covering about 2 months. They are worth it.

A much easier way to process is to dry either green or ripe olives. Spread firm olives on a screen in the sun every day until they are bone dry. They will be wrinkled, a little bitter, but nutty and delicious. Store in jars or plastic bags. They are good eating a few at a time like peanuts, sliced in cooking, and a garnish for salads and sandwiches.

One of my favorite ways is to process with rock salt as the Mediterranean peoples do. They are sold as Greek-style olives, but an Italian friend scoffed at putting the Greek name on them, for she says the Italians invented them! The ripe black olives are the best. Use the small, firm Mission or Manzanillo. They become shriveled and have a salty, bitter taste which many like. A wooden fruit lug with an old towel or a piece of burlap in the bottom is all one needs. A pound of rock salt to 2 pounds of olives is the proportion. Mix thoroughly and put an inch of the salt on top. This will drip, so put it where it will not hurt anything. After a week, mix up the olives and salt every three days. This can be done by stirring or shaking the lug. After a month sift out the salt through a screen, dip olives in boiling water for a minute. Drain and let dry over night. Add 1 pound of salt to 10 pounds of olives, mix and put in a cool place. I have found these will keep a year in glass jars. Just before using, shake a little olive oil over them and eat them.

The brine process is also used without lye. Cover olives with a brine of 8 ounces of salt per gallon in covered jars. After a week, replace the original brine with a heavier one of 1 pound of salt to a gallon of water. Change this with the same strength of brine after 15 days. These will keep in glass jars with lids screwed down for a year, and they can be used after soaking overnight to take out the salt.

CURE THE OLIVE
(Cont. from Pg. 109)

One of the easiest ways is the water treatment, no salt, no lye, just cold water. Using the oak cask with the spigot makes it almost a joy after the others. Take a sharp knife, and make three incisions in ripe olives to the pit of each olive, dropping it into cold water. When all are cut, place in the cask and cover with cold water, changing 3 times a day for about 21 days. Watch that they are not going soft, and throw out those that are. Then cover with a brine of pure salt (1 pound to the gallon) and leave 24 to 48 hours. These can be stored in the refrigerator or pickled in seasoned brines or vinegars and sealed in jars.

We usually buy them canned in seasoned brines or vinegars, and we can do the same. Use the same pickling recipes used for cucumbers and other vegetables. Heat the vinegars or brines and pour them over the olives and seal them in glass jars.

The Extension Service does not recommend putting up more than can be used in one year unless processed in a pressure cooker. Olives are susceptible to the fatal botulism bacteria. Any soft or discolored olive should be discarded and not tasted.

There are over 300 known varieties of olives, but seldom more than four grown in California. The small, firm Mission, so named because it was first grown in the Mission gardens, is the best for home processing and for oil. The next is the Manzanillo, another hardy, medium olive recommended for home curing. The Ascolano and Sevillano are the big tender olives. They are the Jumbos and Supers of commerce, but their tender skins and soft flesh require expert handling.

If tempted to pick up fallen olives, be sure they are firm and not bruised. The best method is to get on a ladder and hand pick them. If the unripe ones are preferred, they should be green, straw-colored or cherry red. If ripe ones are the choice, wait until November or later and choose cherry-red or deep purple. A real ripe olive is not the best for the lye process, but it is fine for drying or the salt pack.

This may seem like a much ado about very little, but I assure you that pride of self and a creative sense of accomplishment will reward those who slug through one of these processes. We who live in a state where the olive is at home, can encourage its use, add to our menus, and perhaps enhance the age-old image of the olive branch as a symbol of peace and forgiveness. □

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Seventy Years of Horticulture in San Diego County

by *Rosalie Garcia*

ESTATE GARDENS FLOURISHED in San Diego before 1909, when *California Garden* was conceived and nurtured by A. D. Robinson, an Englishman imbued with all the mystique, enthusiasm, and background of English gardeners. Mr. Robinson had settled in Point Loma on a ten-acre plot where he raised Barred Rock chickens (and advertised them in the magazine) plus all the trees, flowers, and vegetables he could cram into that space. He was a man of ideals and vision, and had the drive to make things happen. He attracted to the Floral Association, as sponsor of the magazine, men and women from business, the professions, and science, who were pioneers in spirit, eager and ready to join him in realizing the potentials for growth and beauty in San Diego. From 1909 to 1929 he was editor or contributor to the magazine, setting the tone for all time: to promote indigenous plants and the latest introductions of the horticultural world, emphasizing that San Diego is "florally a law unto itself."

He and the men and women who shared his beliefs wanted to use their interest in horticulture, not only for their personal pleasure, but also to beautify the city and educate the public to the possibilities and pleasures of growing trees, flowers, and vegetables. They thought one of the best ways to consolidate their aims was to have flower shows. The age-old problem of a suitable place was solved for a time and the first big show, 1909, was held in the Palm Court of the U. S. Grant Hotel. They went all out, sparing no expense, hiring the famous architect Irving Gill to design the structures for the staging, spending $700 which left them with a $100 deficit. But they declared it a great show. It so happened that there was a big convention in session at the Grant and the visitors were fascinated and delighted with the displays.

Even though the gardeners of San Diego, mostly immigrants from the East or Midwest, were entranced with the climate of their new environment, they still clung to their backgrounds and their life-styles in growing plants they knew. Mr. Robinson and many of the magazine contributors were constantly trying to inspire them to plan more space in their gardens where they could eat and live, to plant the subtropicals that would grow here, and try some of the new vegetables. Miss Kate Sessions, a nurseryman and expert horticulturist, preached the beauties of the native plants and enticed many to grow the Matilija poppy and the ceanothus (wild lilac). But it was the rose they loved, grew, and exhibited in greatest numbers.

The Floral Association's spring flower show soon became a rose show, although there were always other exhibits. Each issue of *California Garden* carried a rose column. In looking over the prize lists, one does not note too many new roses. The grand old 'Kaiserin Augusta Victoria,' the 'Cochets,' 'General McArthur,' and 'Frau Karl Druschki' were always among the top winners. 'Cecile Brunner' and 'Dorothy Perkins' were the popular climbers.

Usually in October a general show was held, in which chrysanthemums were much more prominent than they are now. A certain Mr. H. E. Sies was the one to beat with chrysanthemums and so far as the notices go, no one ever did so long as he exhibited. The Nippon Nursery had beautiful exhibits of the Japanese types along with little gardens featuring bridges, lanterns, rocks, and mosses, which inspired a new trend in landscaping.

There were few landscape architects in the West in those days. Only two or three landscape contractors advertised in *California Garden*, but many contributors were hammering away at the idea of appropriate landscaping. An architect, Mr. V. O. Wallingford, who was also interested in plants, and a contributor, emphasized that plantings should have a compatible relationship to the architecture. The California bungalow on small lots was becoming

(Continued on Page 112)

The first big show, 1909, was held in the

(Continued from Page 111)

popular. For these he pointed out the importance of proportion and scale and suitable plants.

A movement still going on, "Save Our Canyons," was being promoted. The preservation of native plants, the possibilities of canyon parks and gardens, as well as the deploring of dumping and

d in the Palm Court of the U. S. Grant Hotel

vandalism are not new. Miss Sessions was especially interested in the movement and so was Theodore Payne of Los Angeles, who frequently wrote for the magazine and advertised native plants and seeds from his nursery.

(Continued on Page 114)

(Continued from Page 113)

At each show there were new introductions, most often by the nurserymen. Miss Sessions, and Mr. B. Bernard from Mission Hills Nursery, were regular contributors who wrote about these new plants. The showy vine Copa de Oro (cup of gold) made its first bow here in that period, so did Shirley poppies. Hibiscus, which Miss Sessions urged as easy to grow and most useful as table decorations, were grown but not in noticeable displays. None of the exotic ones we now know were mentioned by her, just the single red, the double pink, and a yellow. She liked the Rose of Sharon, hardier than the other hibiscus, which many gardeners were already growing, for they had known it in the East. Also, she pushed for more use of the flowering eucalypti, even though there was a growing enthusiasm for many other varieties. Mr. G. P. Hall made the suggestion for the blanching of celery for Thanksgiving, and told how to do it. Mr. Robinson deplored the cutting of young conifers and evergreens for Christmas trees. He felt about them as if they were abused children. One writer noted the horticultural fads: palms, eucalypti, and cacti in that order. We have had many more since then.

Another idea having limited success at that time was the landscaping of the harbor side. Many of the contributors pointed out the advantages of combining a park-like atmosphere with commerce.

The planting of street trees was always controversial–what trees to plant, who would maintain them, and who would pay for them would spark an argument any day. This accounts for the haphazard mix we have today. There were the palm enthusiasts, who wanted to make the palm the emblem of San Diego, the eucalyptus promoters, and the shade tree lovers. All pulled a certain amount of weight. Coronado wanted flowering trees and some of their glorious ones are still blooming.

Although the nurserymen would sell all the controversial trees, they did not hesitate to take a stand on civic matters. Mr. O. W. Howard, nurseryman from Los Angeles who was much attracted to San Diego, wrote for the magazine and scolded gardeners for not growing shade plants, but he said he knew why. They had no shade, so he began to aid Mr. Robinson in pushing for lath houses or shade trees on their properties. The large estate gardens did have lath houses, but the cottage gardens did not. There were articles on how to build a small one, and the plants to put in it. Begonias, fuchsias, ferns, and other shade plants became more numerous at the shows.

Another group of plants was the subtropical fruit which has caught on with limited success. The West India Company of Altadena owned by the Poponoes, and Coolidge Gardens in Pasadena became regular exhibitors at the shows and both wrote for the magazine. Our "back East" citizens were not easily converted to subtropical sapotes, cherimoyas, avocados, and Queenland nuts (macadamias). When 50 acres of avocados were planted at Vista in 1913, most considered it quite a gamble. When a *Feijoa sellowiana* (pineapple guava) bore fruit in Dr. Lorini's Coronado garden in 1913, it was worth mentioning in the magazine.

The dahlia was now becoming popular, along with the rose and chrysanthemum. There was a regular dahlia column in the magazine and when Mr. Robinson had the first cactus dahlia it was really something new.

In 1913 a devastating freeze shocked gardeners to the core of their beings. They could not believe it. What recovered from the freeze almost expired from the dry hot summer. That awakened gardeners to the water situation. Up to that time much of San Diego's home water had come from wells and they had not proved adequate in the drought. "Paradise" was in trouble. Even the magazine published the pros and cons of divining rods and willow twigs.

In this period two horticultural projects that did not make it were started, flourished briefly and faded away. One was the Little Landers near San Ysidro in the Tia Juana River Valley, promoted and managed by George P. Hall, a regular contributor to the magazine, who wrote on food crops and basic botany. He was an enthusiastic believer in the back-to-the-land movement, an idealist, well educated and practical in many ways. He encouraged people to buy one acre of land and cultivate it intensively so they could make a living on it. There was much social sharing and enough enthusiasm to keep the project going for some time.

The other was Dr. E. Mouli's perfume and soap nut business. Dr. Mouli had a perfume business in Jacksonville, Florida, but decided that San Diego would be a better place for his business, so he moved

here. He had already distributed seeds for the soap nut tree, *Sapindus saponaria*, from the tropics and found San Diego's climate suitable. Mr. Robinson had a tree and was enthusiastic about the possibilities of making oil from the kernels and a soapy liquid from the hulls of the nuts. Chemical analysis proved that the soap nut and the peanut were almost equal in fat, protein, and other elements, with a bonus of the soapy substance. The business of growing soap nut trees did not flourish, although Dr. Mouli bought aromatic petals and leaves from local growers for his perfume business. It took several years for the tree to reach nut-bearing age, and the process for extraction of oil was more complicated than with the established peanut business.

As far back as 1909 a decision had been made by the City Council of San Diego to celebrate the opening of the Panama Canal in 1915 with an exposition.

This was the greatest horticultural motivation the city and especially the City Park, recently renamed Balboa Park, had ever had. The exposition made Balboa Park. It took courage and vision for a small city of something over 40,000 people to undertake such a project. They floated a million-dollar bond issue, set up a commission, and decided to hold the exposition in their 1,400-acre Balboa Park. They hired the top landscape architectual firm of Olmsted Bros. from Brookline, Massachusetts to lay out the plan and plantings, Bertram G. Goodhue as an architect to plan the Mission-style buildings, and Frank P. Allen as contractor to carry out the plans. None of these was a local resident, which immediately caused big objections—does that sound familiar? Mr. Olmsted did not understand the water and climatic conditions of San Diego. Even though he was responsible for establishing the nursery and making the original cuttings, his overall plan was not accepted and he resigned. Mr. Richard R. Stein of Mr. Goodhue's office then laid out the general plan of the exposition. Two of Mr. Robinson's ideas that he had been promoting long before the exposition had been decided on, were accepted: a nursery in Balboa Park and a lath house for shade plants. Three hundred acres of the park were to be intensively planted and would need thousands of plants. A call went out to all gardeners to start cuttings and plant seeds for replanting in the park as well as to spruce up their own gardens and parkways. Geraniums and street trees were especially urged. Floral Association members grew in their own lath houses and donated one thousand ferns as well as many other plants.

The park nursery took up 30 acres, and soon had thousands of little plants growing, including 1000 bougainvilleas, 1500 geraniums, 2000 roses, 4000 jasmines, 1300 poinsettias, 1500 tecomas (trumpet vines). They expected a million palms and ferns, gifts from citizens, and 10,000 acacias from seeds. By the spring of 1911 already 50,000 trees and shrubs had been planted. Many Floral Association members went out every Sunday and planted trees, vines, climbing roses, and other flowers in the vacant lots and along the streets.

At this stage in the planting (1911) the Exposition Commission offered $1000 for a new rose to be named San Diego, and left the conditions of the contest to the *San Diego Floral Association*. It reserved the right to withhold any award if no entry showed "pronounced merit and distinct individuality."

Soon applications from all over the United States began to come in from nurserymen and individual hybridizers. The next year small rose plants arrived and were planted in the park. In 1913 the Floral Association Committee, using the strict standards it had set, judged none of the entrants measured up to the standard of "pronounced merit and distinct individuality" and suggested that another crop be judged next year.

The committee stuck to its guns with its strict standards and in 1914 rendered the same decision that none of the entrants measured up to their set standards, and there was no San Diego rose for the California-Pacific Exposition which did open on January 1, 1915 in spite of disagreements and unpopular decisions. The story of the exposition, its success and influence, will be in the next issue as Part II. □

Rosalie Garcia, a history buff and former teacher, now devotes her time to writing, lecturing, and judging flower shows. A real dirt gardener, she likes to experiment with new plants, particularly vegetables. Readers for the last 15 years have looked forward to the regular appearance of her factual and amusing articles about these plants.

Editor's Note–

AN ARTICLE BY ADA PERRY ABOUT ADA PERRY

Ada

ALICE CLARK, Editor Emerita, asked me to write about what became of me after I ceased being editor and doing articles for *California Garden* in our late lamented fifties.

As a matter of fact, I remember those articles distantly but with affection. The staff let me write what I pleased and the way I pleased. They even printed a rhapsodic vacation visit to Hat Point high above Hell's Canyon in Oregon.

It was plenty "floral" enough as the mountain flowers were waist high in the meadow a mile above the brown body of the Snake River. Even at that height, tiny ruffles of white water were visible.

I had the adventure of taking the Hell's Canyon float raft trip on the Snake while working for Walter Andersen. His former landscape foreman, Hardy Keuhni, didn't discourage me by jokingly calling my first venture "Hot Point."

Walter Andersen and the *San Diego Union* were my "happenings" when I left off *California Garden* articles. The old Mission Valley Nursery was liquidated when owner Evelyn (Mrs. Clark) Cavenee passed away. I held back from several job offers until Walter Andersen paid me a courtesy call and asked me to join his staff as saleswoman and garden class instructor. I said yes without any quibbling. I'd worked for Walter briefly when he was just starting his nursery operation on Rosecrans Street. His insistance on good gardening information was something I could tie to happily.

Instructing a garden class I'd never even considered, but he got me up in front of the first class, spoke a couple of sentences of introduction and stepped back. I opened my mouth and found I could talk, even improvise, when pursuing a garden topic. That was in the fall of 1956.

Along about 1959, Walter Andersen had me sit down in front of a typewriter and ghost write an advertising column called "Garden Chat." He, and the late advertising man, Bill Patton, called the shots and I just did what came naturally, pound a typewriter. (My Dad was an old time newspaper man.)

I honestly believe no other nurseryman in town would have had sense enough to hitch me up to a typewriter. You don't think W. A. would do it himself when he could put in begonia and impatiens slips and plant seeds of palms, do you? I'd heard him say I was a good saleswoman so I didn't feel demoted. Though a sotto voce remark about his staff being in trouble if they worked on commission did trouble me a little.

Just along about this time, a gentleman who said he was from the midwest and was going to write a garden column for the Sunday *Union*, bought some pansies or whatnot from me. I was aghast. I'd heard what some of those midwesterners said about gardening in San Diego!

In just a day or so, a kind voice on the phone talked to me about writing a garden column for the Sunday *Union* also, from the point of view of the nurserymen in San Diego. He was Clyde V. Smith, now retired but well remembered by a lot of gardeners–and realtors. (They are those other people who inhabit the Sunday section– and advertise bountifully.)

I couldn't resist Mr. Smith's persuasive manner. He said I was to write about "what" and "how to do it" and Arthur Otis in another column was to write from the midwestern point of view when establishing a home out here. I recovered from the shock of my first meeting with Otis.

At a combined award dinner of newspaper executives and the San Diego chapter of the CAN (*California Association of Nurserymen*–I'd served as their secretary in the fifties), both groups seemed very well pleased. I had the very great pleasure of hearing one of the newspaper people class me as a "natural writer" with whom he was well pleased.

The nurserymen gave me a handsome plaque, a ditto *Ficus decora* and a hearty cheer. It was scrumptious.

But I was an old offender. Way back in time, I'd done garden columns for the Sunday *Union* on the recommendation of Ernest Gookins with the Harris Seed Co. and gotten along well with my first Sunday editor, "Andy" Robert Anderson. You know why? Well, this is what he said, "You're the first one I've had on gardening who writes the English language". Well, my Dad brought me up that way, or tried to. □

Captivating Garden Columnist

Cartoon by Bob Fassett—Courtesy *The San Diego Union*

The associates of California Garden are proud of Ada Perry, one of San Diego's favorite garden columnists. While she is not actively associated with the magazine at present, she is always ready to make a suggestion or share her knowledge with a writer. Ada contributed regularly to our magazine for about 10 years and was editor in 1948, thus she is the earliest editor still living in San Diego.

OSA CENTIFOLIA. ROSIER A CENT FEUILLES

Redouté

CENTIFOLIA ROSE

Roses Old, Roses New

by *Helen Chamlee*

" . . . THE WORLD, however, did not contain enough roses for Josephine, so her subjects went to work to raise more, and thus started the rose fever which was to place France for many years at the head of rose-loving nations."

Who was this Josephine, that she may be said to have caused the number of cultivated roses to jump, suddenly in terms of centuries, from about 250 kinds in 1800 to the more than 20,000 we grow today?

She was Josephine de Beauharnais, wife of Napoleon Bonaparte. At La Malmaison, a property she purchased in 1799, three years after her marriage, Josephine established a large garden designed in what was then called the English or naturalistic style.

A few years earlier, the French had rid themselves, by bloody revolution and a reign of terror, of the line of kings who had established the greatest, most extensive formal gardens ever created. The French people, long oppressed by those kings, would have nothing to do with their style of gardening and the magnificent gardens were neglected or purposely destroyed—a reaction to be expected.

So Josephine developed her garden in the manner of an English park, with sweeping lawns, a variety of trees and shrubs, and an artificial lake in which white swans were kept. Her horticultural interests were varied, and many newly discovered plants were sent to her from far places. Camellias, hydrangeas, rhododendrons, mimosas, and catalpas found places in this landscape. Orders went out to French warships that whenever a prize was taken it was to be searched for strange seeds or plants and that these were to be sent to La Malmaison.

Smaller favorites included phlox, dahlia, and geranium, but Josephine's special love was the rose. She lavished care, attention, and money on her rose collection and it became world famous. No stone was left unturned in assembling all the rose varieties known in cultivation at that time, along with the species roses from all continents. She was influential enough that she could arrange to have England's leading nurseryman, John Kennedy, brought over to France for consultation. And this in the midst of the Napoleonic wars.

The establishment of Josephine's collection coincided roughly with a burst of interest sparked two decades earlier by the introduction of a group of roses from China. The Blush China Rose came early in the eighteenth century, was apparently lost, then reintroduced by Sir Joseph Banks in 1789. A red one arrived in 1793. *Rosa odorata*, a parent of the tea rose, was introduced in 1809.

These China roses, as they were called, brought characters that were prized and appreciated everywhere and they tempted rose-men into a fury of cross-breeding.

Hybridizers, nurserymen, and botanists went to work on bringing out brighter colors, longer blooming periods and greater vigor, and a whole series of new rose creations enriched the gardens of the world. All this culminated in the birth of the first significant rose of the class to be known as hybrid tea. This is the modern rose and most of our twenty-thousand and more garden roses are in this class.

The first hybrid tea, La France, was introduced in 1867, and today this date is recognized as the dividing line between old roses and modern roses.

In view of this it becomes clear that the "new" roses introduced each year are all in the modern group, but we could plant a new bush of Moss Rose, Cabbage Rose or Banksia and have ourselves an "old" rose. New hybrids of course can't be old roses—we can't today create a rose that was in cultivation before 1867, but we can grow and enjoy the very same kind that Juliet had in mind when she said ". . . a rose by any other name would smell as sweet."

Roses in Juliet's day, or Shakespeare's, were noted for the sweetness of their scent. In general they were far more fragrant than the majority of modern roses, although hybridizers are working with considerable success in bringing up the fragrance.

Historically, garden roses came from Persia, Egypt, China, the Mediterranean, and the Near East, and they have spread from those centers to all temperate regions, both north and south of the equator.

Roses came to our Atlantic coast with English, Dutch, and French settlers. They came to California via Mexico—roses that had been introduced into Spain by the Moors. Other roses came west in covered wagons and became a part of early California.

These old roses are seldom seen in southern California, for the simple reason that they do not flourish here. They do not appreciate our balmy climate. I have seen a few in Julian, but that is out of the balmy climate zone. Put into perspective it is logical to set sentiment aside and forget about planting old roses. Why fuss with a rose that blooms for about a month and is almost impossible to keep clean of mildew and other plagues when we can enjoy big beautiful hybrid teas for eleven months of the year?

Occasionally I see a yellow banksia in an old planting, and it is available in local nurseries now and then. It is charming, even out of bloom, with its delicate foliage and slender thornless green stems. In flower it is pure delight, covered as it is with tiny doubles of softest yellow, faintly fragrant.

To my knowledge the only significent collection of old roses in southern California is that in Descanso Gardens, at La Canada in the Los Angeles area. If any other exists, the editor of this magazine would appreciate a note to that effect.

From a book published in 1606, here is a recipe for a Sweet Bag. I think it would work as well with hybrid tea petals as with centifolias or cabbage roses:

"A Bag to smell unto for Melancholy or to cause one to sleep. Take drie Rose leaves, keep them close in a glasse which will keep them sweet, then take powder of Mints, powder of Cloves in a grosse powder, and put the same to the Rose leaves, then put all these together in a bag, and take that to bed with you, and it will cause you to sleep, and it is good to smell unto at other times." □

A GARDEN OF THE MIDDLE AGES
SHOWING ROSE TRELLIS
Flemish c. 1500

Helen Chamlee has received recognition for her success in promoting appreciation of California's native plants and encouraging their use in parks and home gardens through lecturing, writing, and growing. She was elected a fellow of the California Native Plant Society and recently the San Diego Wild Animal Park named its native plant garden after her. Helen is author of "Ferns of San Diego County" and has shared her knowledge of general horticulture as well as native plants with the readers of this magazine since 1964.

TREE FERNS

by *Myron Kimnach*

NEXT TO THE coconut palm and the orchid, the plant most associated with the tropics is the tree fern. It is often depicted in paintings of tropical scenes, the tall curved trunks surmounted by a symmetrical crown of feathery fronds, a great contrast to the plants of temperate Europe and North America.

The tree fern, because of its graceful beauty, is a prized plant for gardens with a suitable climate. The native habitats of these ferns are shaded gullies, often along streams or ponds, or the higher slopes of mountains where mists and light rains are frequent. In California, with its generally dry hot summers, they do best near the coast and best of all in San Francisco. Golden Gate Park, not far from the ocean, contains magnificent groves of old tree ferns.

There are over 900 species of tree fern, but unfortunately only a handful are in cultivation. No more than four or five are commonly grown and only a dozen or so others are found, but rarely, in conservatories. This unfortunate situation has several causes. First, most tree ferns come from frost-free habitats and are therefore unable to withstand our winter cold; then, most grow in relatively inaccessible areas so that spores or plants cannot easily be collected; and finally, the spores are so short-lived that they rarely survive long enough to germinate in cultivation. With interest in ornamental plants now increasing throughout the world, however, it is to be hoped that numerous species will be introduced to cultivation.

In California the commonest tree ferns belong to *Sphaeropteris*, a genus of some 120 species from the Old and New World tropics. *S. cooperi*, frequently known under the older names, *Cyathea cooperi* and *Alsophila australis*, is the slenderest, its long, gently curving stalk attaining some 12 feet in height, but only 3 or 4 inches in diameter. The stem is beautifully patterned with the leaf-base scars of fallen leaves. This striking species is native to the Australian states of Queensland and New South Wales, where it often grows in eucalyptus forests. Its stems often lengthen a foot or more a year.

Another genus of tree fern, *Dicksonia*, is much slower growing, but for that reason, more permanent in a garden landscape. An attractive though rarely cultivated dicksonia is *D. squarrosa*, a small, rather delicate fern with dark brown leaf stalks. It has the unusual habit for a tree fern of occasionally producing young plants from the base of the trunk. It is a fern suitable for a small garden where the taller, more massive tree ferns would be out of place.

Dicksonia antarctica, as one would expect from its name, is the most cold-hardy of the tree ferns. It is known to have survived 20° F., and snow sometimes covers its fronds in its native Australia. Unlike *Sphaeropteris cooperi*, the trunk is often 1 or 2 feet thick because of the aerial roots which cover it to a depth of several inches. In its native homeland, these roots absorb the moisture of frequent rains and mists and furnish a secondary habitat for a multitude of epiphytic plants, particularly small ferns, which often cover the trunks with a green mantle. Some species of ferns are found almost exclusively growing on tree-fern trunks.

When tree ferns become too tall in conservatories they are sometimes started over as large cuttings by first removing the leaves, cutting through the trunk at the desired height and replanting the severed portion; the aerial roots quickly grow into the soil. Because this rough fibrous layer of roots is an ideal surface on which to grow staghorn ferns and orchids, slabs and cross-sections of tree fern trunks are imported in great quantities for the nursery trade. Larger pieces or whole trunks are also used to make such abominations as the carved tiki logs and other articles of pseudo-primitive art that one finds around Hawaiian-style restaurants and hotels in California. Unfortunately, these uses endanger wild populations of tree ferns, as does the rapid destruction of their habitats for agriculture and other development.

The Hawaiian tree fern, *Cibotium*, is now almost as widely grown in California as the preceding species. Large plants are imported from Hawaii as leafless trunks and established in nurseries for later sale. These species of *Cibotium* are indeed beautiful, due mainly to their wide, arching fronds that droop at the sides. They thrive best in locations protected from winds and winter cold and never look their best when grown under the same conditions as the Australian and New Zealand species, which are decidedly more cold-hardy.

In the more inland portions of southern California, plant tree ferns under trees, in a shadehouse, or close to the north side of a building, to provide protection from full sun. However, along the narrow coastal strip, established plants will thrive either in full shade or even in full sun. Plant tree ferns in soil which is loose, well-drained, and rich in organic material. Keep the soil moist, but not soggy.

Since these ferns have a shallow root system, do not damage it by cultivating the area over which the fronds spread. If the roots are uncovered and exposed by erosion during storms, cover them again—before they dry out—with either a mulch or rich soil.

Fertilize lightly, but frequently—preferably with a mild organic-based fertilizer such as blood meal or fish emulsion. Do not apply concentrated doses or insecticides and do not fertilize a dry plant.

The graceful beauty of well grown tree ferns adds a tropical look to the garden, conservatory, or lath house. □

Adapted from an article in "Huntingiton", the calendar of the Huntington Botanical Gardens. Myron Kinnach is curator and superintendent of the gardens.

Photos by Bill Gunther

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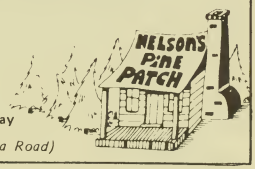

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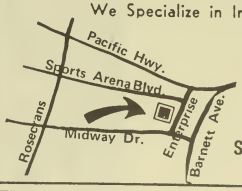

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now is the time

July-August 1979

compiled by Penny Bunker

BEGONIAS Margaret Lee
- ✓to groom and inspect your plants regularly during the growing season.
- ✓to make cuttings of material removed in grooming.
- ✓to pot any rooted cuttings and leaves.
- ✓to control for mildew–spot spray at first sign.
- ✓to feed tuberous begonias with "Hi-Bloom" and fish emulsion.
- ✓to check for pests–snails, slugs, and fungus.

BONSAI Dr. Herbert Markowitz
- ✓to check dampness–water those plants that need it–some perhaps as much as two or three times a day.
- ✓to protect some plants by moving into a shaded area out of the direct sun.
- ✓to check for insects and pests; spray with diluted spray.
- ✓to rotate your trees in regard to sun exposure.
- ✓to stop transplanting or repotting except in emergency situations.
- ✓to keep weeds, debris, dead leaves cleaned out.

BROMELIADS Dr. Norman Lurie
- ✓to water frequently and keep cups clean.
- ✓to continue feeding plants, generally with half-strength.
- ✓to remove and pot offsets to increase your collection.
- ✓to maintain insect and snail control program.
- ✓to protect tender plants from hot sun.

CACTUS & SUCCULENTS Verna Pasek
- ✓to protect plants from super-hot sun. If shade is not available, a trellis with a large potted shrub can be placed on an angle to filter sunlight.
- ✓to water thoroughly after plants dry out. Do not spray or sprinkle overhead; puddles left on plant damage foliage.
- ✓to check potted plants for soil mealybugs. Support the plant while holding the pot upside-down; tap until the root ball is free. If pests are visible discard pot and soil, wash roots and rinse with alcohol and water solution. Cut off any roots that cannot be cleaned. Repot with sterile soil. Let roots heal off a few days before watering.
- ✓to root cuttings and offsets.
- ✓to ventilate green houses–still air encourages insects such as mealybug, red spider, scale, thrips. A "No-pest" strip helps in a closed area, but use with caution.

CAMELLIAS Les Baskerville
- ✓to establish regular watering program as hot weather begins. Never let root zone completely dry out–keep damp but not wet.
- ✓to mulch with an inch-thick application of redwood compost.
- ✓to feed with liquid fish, cottonseed meal, or other camellia fertilizers; regular feeding at 6 to 8 weeks intervals.
- ✓to stake long new growth.
- ✓to continue light pruning of any unwanted branches.
- ✓to inspect for aphids or loopers: spray with malathion.
- ✓to give plants iron three times a year.

DAHLIAS Abe Janzen
- ✓to spray for insects and mildew. Keep snails and slugs away.
- ✓to disbud to encourage better bloom.
- ✓to keep old blooms cut back to first set of leaves from the main stalk to prolong blooming.
- ✓to tie up side branches to prevent breaking.
- ✓to continue regular watering program.
- ✓to feed with 5-10-10 fertilizer to promote bloom and root growth.

EPIPHYLLUMS Mary & Warren Kelly
- ✓to watch moisture–spray during evening hours or early morning during hot dry days.
- ✓to fertilize for new growth–use 10-10-15 at this time.
- ✓to watch for pests–spray or drench plant with "Cygon" to control.
- ✓to repot plants that have outgrown their containers.
- ✓to start new cuttings during the warm weather.
- ✓to keep plants out of full sun–need filtered sunlight with good air circulation.

FERNS Ray Sodomka
- ✓to maintain humidity about the plants by dampening surrounding area.
- ✓to maintain a good watering program.
- ✓to fertilize plants regularly as they are in growing period.
- ✓to keep dead fronds trimmed off.
- ✓to maintain regular pest control; spray for aphids, check for scale and snails.
- ✓to protect from hot sun.
- ✓to plant fern spore.

FUCHSIAS William Selby

✓to keep the foliage misted, spray only in the shade or early evening as moisture on the plants will act as a magnifier and result in burn spots.
✓to continue fertilizing with one high in phosphorus during blooming period.
✓to prune lightly to shape after blooming to encourage more blooms for fall.
✓to spray or drench plants with "Cygon" for systemic control of insects.
✓to keep spent blooms and seed-pods picked for more and larger bloom.
✓to keep damp but not wet—do not overwater.
✓to visit the Del Mar Fair to see new varieties—to add to your collection as this is full-bloom season.

GERANIUMS Carol Roller

✓to continue feeding with a balanced fertilizer using half the recommended strength.
✓to continue insect and pest control using materials according to directions.
✓to water as needed—allow plants to dry out somewhat between waterings, but not completely dry and wilted.
✓to remove faded flowers, discolored leaves, and any unshapely growth.
✓to rotate plants on a schedule to produce well-shaped plants.
✓to protect regals (Martha Washington types) and other sensitive kinds from intense heat and sun by providing shade.

HEMEROCALLIS Sanford Roberts

✓to increase watering schedule if necessary to keep moist, not wet—to promote good growth, strong stalks, and abundant bloom.
✓to keep dead leaves cleaned out of beds and individual plants to discourage pests.
✓to control aphids, earwigs, and/or sow-bugs—use a systemic spray or drench according to manufacturers' directions. Caution: Do Not Use near food producing plants.
✓to order new cultivars for fall delivery.
✓to prepare beds for new plantings—incorporate humus and animal manures except poultry, thoroughly turn and let mellow before planting.
✓to visit gardens and commercial outlets to increase your appreciation of favorite garden perennials.

IRIS Iris Society

✓to spade and work humus into the soil to revitalize before replanting rhizomes.
✓to divide and replant tall-bearded iris taking only the new rhizomes attached to the outer edges of the "mother" clumps. Trim fans to half length before planting.
✓to feed those plants left in the ground with a good fertilizer to promote strong growth.
✓to keep iris beds clean and free of old fans and weeds.
✓to watch for aphids; use a light insecticide or a systemic.
✓to cut off spuria foliage, but do not dig until September.

ORCHIDS Charles Fouquette

✓to spray and mist on hot, dry days. Beware of Santa Ana days.
✓to maintain regular program against pests—watch for red spider, scale and/or aphids.
✓to continue heavy watering of cymbidiums.
✓to feed cymbidiums and cattleyas with a high-nitrogen fertilizer as these are the growing months.
✓to feed ½ strength complete fertilizer (18-18-18) to phals and cattleya seedlings.
✓to repot those plants that are overcrowded and have not been done.
✓to check glass house-paint when in need to maintain required shading these hot days; may be too light during summer months.

ROSES Dr. Robert Linck

✓to water deeply to promote summer growth.
✓to continue feeding every 4 or 6 weeks; can add iron chelates to your fertilizer.
✓to watch for rust and eradicate it; remove the infected foliage and spray with "Acti-Dion PM".
✓to check for spider mites and spray off under leaves if necessary.
✓to do moderate pruning in late August for abundant fall bloom.
✓to remember to use preventive measures for fungus and eradicate insects when present.

VEGETABLES George James

✓to prepare soil for fall planting of vegetables.
✓to set plants of eggplant, peppers, or tomatoes.
✓to plant seeds of snap beans, summer squash, corn, cucumber, carrots, and beets.
✓to irrigate deeply by flooding or drip method.
✓to control weeds so they do not compete with the vegetables for food or water.

GREEN THUMB Patti Hurd

✓to plant flowers for fall color: marigolds, zinnias, stock, calendula—in August.
✓to pinch back chrysanthemums for bushy plants and more flowers in the fall.
✓to prepare trench with manure and fertilizer several weeks before planting sweet peas in August.
✓to dig gladiolus after tops have turned yellow. Place in a shady dry place—do not store until tops can be easily pulled off. Dust corms with chlordane powder before storing to kill any thrips.
✓to plant or divide Shasta daisies.
✓to divide and/or move belladonna lilies after they bloom.

Penny Bunker, who compiles Now is the Time, a popular feature of our magazine, is a member of seven plant societies so she is well qualified. It is her cheery voice one hears when calling the office of California Garden. As office-secretary for San Diego Floral Association and circulation manager for this magazine everything runs smoothly with Penny's expertise and devotion.

AFTER BULBS FLOWER

THE CARE GIVEN BULBS after they finish flowering determines whether or not they will flower the next year. Bulbs must grow long enough after flowering to develop the embryo flowers and foliage for the following season and make enough plant food for nourishment while they are dormant, then start growth when dormancy is over. Bulbs should be watered as long as the foliage is green, with one application of fertilizer made as flowering ends, but do not cut off any of the foliage. When the foliage starts to turn brown the watering should be reduced. The bulbs can be dug after the foliage is completely brown and put in a shady place to finish drying. Store bulbs in a place that is well ventilated and not excessively hot. Decay of bulbs is prevented if a coarse material, such as shavings, is packed around them so there will be good air circulation, then stored in well ventilated containers. G. J.

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–John Banister Tabb

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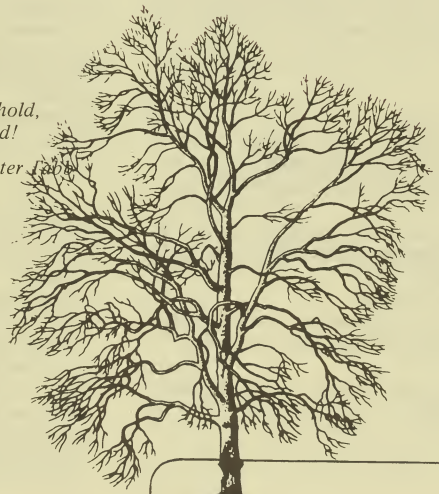

In my garden I spend my days; in my library I spend my nights.
My interests are divided between my geraniums and my books.
With the flower I am in the present; with the book I am in the past.

–Alexander Smith

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an Diego Woman Honored For Work in Horticulture

Special to The Christian Science Monitor

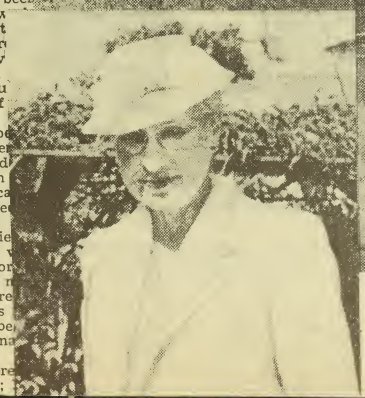
AN DIEGO, Calif. — For dis- St. Lucas by T. S. Brandegee, one guished services in plant intro- of California's leading botanists, ction, Miss Kate O. Sessions, Diego horticulturist, was arded the coveted Meyer medal

ree Planted o Open New ark Garden

he Mary A. Greer native plant garden was dedicated yesterday Balboa park with the planting a live oak tree. The garden is the intersection of Pershing dr d Arizona st.

R. R. McLean, county agricultur commissioner, assisted Miss Kate ssions and Mrs. Greer in the tree nting ceremonies. The latter ha en president of San Diego Flora ociation 13 years and has beer tive in city beautification w e expressed the hope that t ting part in yesterday's exer uld live to see the tree grow nd in its shade to read onze marker which is mou a boulder at the base of e.

W. Allen Perry, park supe ndent, in accepting the garde half of the park board, said ea would reflect credit on sociation. He praised the ca d succulent garden dedicate ss Sessions.

Mrs. Greer said her activitie nnection with the garden w sed solely on her affection for y and the desire to make it m autiful. Miss Sessions expre e hope that the exotic trees the area eventually will be oved and replaced by na dars and ceonosis.

Attending the dedication were o daughters of Mrs. Greer;